

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00627 181506Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09

OES-07 AGRE-00 IGA-02 AID-05 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 /060 W

-----100809 181750Z /44

R 181400Z JUL 77

FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0946

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ALEXANDRIA 0627

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EWWT, EAID EG

SUBJECT: PROBLEMS AT ALEXANDRIA PORT: PL-480 PRECEDENCE

REF: (A) ALEXANDRIA 0599, (B) ALEXANDRIA 0616

1. DURING PORT RECONNAISSANCE 14 JULY (REFTEL A), WE WERE PLEASED TO SEE SS VIRGO STILL IN PLACE AT SILOS PIER AND WERE TOLD SHE MIGHT FINISH UNLOADING THAT EVENING OR NEXT MORNING.

2. WHETHER IT WAS CAPTAIN'S STUBBORNNESS OR OUR REPRESENTATIONS IS UNIMPORTANT. POINT IS THAT HE STAYED AT PIER. BY DEDUCTION AND PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE, WE PRESUME "PRESSURE" ON PORT CAPTAIN CAME FROM AGENTS OF SS ARGIS BRAVERY, WAITING TO DOCK SINCE JULY 5, TATHER THAN FROM "RECEIVERS" PORT CAPTAIN CITED.

3. INCIDENT DOES, HOWEVER, HIGHLIGHT POSSIBLE PROBLEM FOR FUTURE. GOE'S REPEATED ASSURANCES THAT PL-480 CARGOES WILL RECEIVE PRIORITY DOCKING AND OFF-LOADING MAY BE EXPECTED FACE INCREASINGLY TOUGH TESTS. DOCKING BRITISH FLAG VESSEL AT NOMINALLY SILOS PIER 81 WITH FROZEN MEAT CARGO (PARA 2 REFTEL B), WHILE ONE US AND TWO GREEK FLAG VESSELS CARRYING GRAIN WAITED IN INNER HARBOR  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ALEXAN 00627 181506Z

ANCHORAGE, WAS PURELY ACADEMIC FOR MOMENT SINCE IT IMPOSSIBLE UNLOAD THERE OVER EXISTING STACKS OF GRAIN BAGS. IF IN NEXT FEW DAYS TRANSPORT MINISTRY SUCCEEDS IN CLEARING DOCK, SHOULD WE INSIST BRITISH VESSLE BE MOVED AND PL-480 CARRIER BERTHED?

4. FURTHER, AS MORE AMERICAN FLAG VESSELS CARRYING PL-480 WAIT PIER SPACE, AND FOREIGN FLAG VESSELS WITH PL-480 ALSO WAIT, WE

ARE GOING TO COME UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE TO SEEK "SUPER-PREFERENCE" FOR AMERICAN FLAG VESSELS. WE HAVE ALREADY HAD ON SUCH PLEA WHICH RESOLVED ITSELF WHEN A SECOND SILOS PIER BECAME AVAILABLE THE SAME DAY.

5. SYMPATHETIC AS I AM TO EXPEDITING THE US VESSEL IN INTERESTS OF COMMERCE AND PROFIT, MY INCLINATION IS TO RESPECT THE PORT AUTHORITIES STANDARD PRIORITIES WITHIN CONTEXT OF PL-480 CARGO PREFERENCE. THAT IS, THE FIRST SHIP ARRIVED WITH PL-480 CARGO GETS NEXT AVAILABLE DOCK SPACE, REGARDLESS OF FLAG. I AM SURE PORT OFFICIALS WILL INTERPRET OUR AGREEMENT THAT WAY, AND IN THE ABSENCE OF BRIBES FROM US AND ALMOST CERTAINTY OF BRIBES FROM OTHERS, WILL INSIST UPON IT.

6. ALSO, AS IN CASE OF SS VIRGO ABOVE, THERE MAY ARISE TIMES WE WILL WANT TO INSIST UPON IT, TOO.  
CHASE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PORT CONGESTION, CARGO HANDLING, PL 480  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977ALEXAN00627  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770256-0054  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** ALEXANDRIA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770749/aaaabpyw.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** c8ef356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 ALEXANDRIA 599, 77 ALEXANDRIA 616  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1835419  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PROBLEMS AT ALEXANDRIA PORT: PL-480 PRECEDENCE  
**TAGS:** EWWT, EAID, EG  
**To:** CAIRO  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/c8ef356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009